

B2 7. (Amended) The method of claim [6] 1 wherein hot filtration is carried out at a temperature of from about 30 to 70°C.

10. (Amended) The method of claim [9] 1 comprising treating the solvent based layer with a tangential flow filter.

B3
5 sub C2 11. (Amended) The method of claim [6] 1 comprising removing the particulates and then removing the residual oils.

sub C3 13. (Amended) The method of claim [6] 1 comprising removing the residual oils and particulates to form a filtrate and recycling the filtrate.

B4
10 14. (Amended) The method of claim [6] 1 comprising removing the residual oils and particulates to form a filtrate and treating the filtrate to remove at least some of the solvent.

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sub C4 18. (Amended) The method of claim [9] 1 wherein the step of removing oils and particulates from the solvent based layer comprises subjecting the solvent based layer to centrifugation to form a third liquid containing gelatin.

15 Please add the following new claims.

3b C4
44. A method of treating a waste material containing gelatin comprising:
a) combining the waste material and a solvent for the gelatin to form
a liquid containing gelatin;
b) separating the liquid into a solvent based layer and a non-solvent
5 based layer;
c) removing residual oils and/or particulates from the solvent based
layer to form a second liquid containing gelatin having a higher purity than the first
liquid; and
d) treating the non-solvent based layer by distillation or reverse
10 osmosis to remove oily components therefrom.

B6
45. The method of claim 44 wherein the step of removing residual oils and/or
particulates from the solvent based layer comprises subjecting the solvent based layer
to hot filtration.

46. The method of claim 44 wherein hot filtration is carried out at a
15 temperature of from about 30 to 70°C.

47. The method of claim 46 wherein the solvent based layer is diluted at a
dilution volume of up to 5 volumes of said solvent.

48. The method of claim 44 comprising treating the solvent based layer with
a tangential flow filter.

sub C1

49. The method of claim 44 comprising removing the particulates and then removing the residual oils.

50. The method of claim 44 comprising removing the residual oils at a temperature of from about 30 to 70°C and a dilution volume of up to 5 volumes using a liquid:liquid coalescer.

51. The method of claim 44 comprising removing the residual oils and particulates to form a filtrate and recycling the filtrate.

52. The method of claim 44 comprising removing the residual oils and particulates to form a filtrate and treating the filtrate to remove at least some of the solvent.

53. The method of claim 52 wherein the step of treating the filtrate comprises subjecting the filtrate to a process selected from the group consisting of vacuum distillation, diafiltration and short path distillation.

54. The method of claim 53 comprising treating the filtrate by short path distillation at an evaporator temperature of from about 50 to 120°C.

55. The method of claim 54 comprising treating the filtrate by short path distillation at a pressure of from about 20 to 30 in. Hg.

56. The method of claim 44 wherein the step of removing oils and particulates from the solvent based layer comprises subjecting the solvent based layer to centrifugation to form a third liquid containing gelatin.

57. The method of claim 44 further comprising separating the particulates from the oils and forwarding the oils to the non-solvent based layer.

58. The method of claim 56 further comprising removing at least a portion of the solvent from the third liquid to increase the concentration of gelatin in the third liquid.

59. The method of claim 58 comprising forming a first recycle stream containing said solvent.

60. The method of claim 59 wherein the first recycle stream further comprises gelatin and glycerin.

61. The method of claim 59 further comprising forming a second recycle stream comprising said solvent.

62. The method of claim 58 further comprising removing any dyes from the third liquid.

63. The method of claim ~~22~~ wherein the waste material contains a softening agent, said softening agent being separated into the solvent based layer.

3/b C9 64. ~~The method of claim 63 wherein the softening agent is selected from polyols.~~

5 65. The method of claim 64 wherein the polyol is glycerin.

66. The method of claim 58 wherein the third liquid contains a softening agent, said method further comprising subjecting the third liquid to short path distillation to form a fourth liquid containing gelatin, softening agent and dyes if present.

Bb
10 67. The method of claim 62 wherein the third liquid contains a softening agent, said method further comprising subjecting the third liquid to ultrafiltration to remove the softening agent and any dyes therefrom.

68. The method of claim 44 wherein the solvent is water.

69. A method of treating a waste material containing gelatin comprising:

- 15 a) combining the waste material and a solvent for the gelatin to form a liquid containing gelatin;
- b) separating the liquid into a solvent based layer and a non-solvent based layer;

c) removing residual oils and/or particulates from the solvent based layer to form a second liquid containing gelatin having a higher purity than the first liquid; and

d) treating the second liquid by short path distillation to form a third liquid having less solvent than the second liquid.

70 A method of treating a waste material containing gelatin comprising:

a) combining the waste material and a solvent for the gelatin to form a first liquid containing gelatin; and

b) hot filtering the liquid to form a second liquid containing gelatin having a higher purity than the first liquid.

REMARKS

The foregoing amendment to the specification is submitted to update Applicant's priority claim. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the preferred hot filtering processes disclosed in the specification. Accordingly, claims 6 and 9 have been canceled and claims 7, 10, 11, 13, 14 and 18 have been amended to provide proper dependencies. New independent claim 44 is added to provide a method of treating a waste material containing gelatin in which one of the steps includes treating the non-solvent based layer by distillation or reverse osmosis to remove oily components therefrom. Support for independent claim 44 can be found in the specification beginning at page 10, line 10. New claims 45-68 are all directly or indirectly dependent